

## ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to IRF3 polypeptides. In particular, isolated nucleic acid molecules are provided encoding human IRF3 protein. IRF3 polypeptides are also provided as are vectors, host cells and recombinant methods for producing the same. The invention further relates to screening methods of gene therapy using polynucleotides encoding IRF3 polypeptides, fragments or variants to treat, prevent or ameliorate infectious diseases.